RESPONSE Serial No. 10/723,920

Examiner: LACYK, John P. Atty. Docket No.: 100328-010200/RE/CON

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 22-57 are currently pending in the instant application. Claims 22-57 stand rejected for being based upon a defective reissue declaration under 35 U.S.C. 251. Claims 22-57 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. Claims 22-57 have been canceled and claims 58-74 are newly added. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections in their entirety for at least the reasons given below.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 251

Claims 22-57 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 251 for being based upon a defective reissue declaration. Applicant has filed a supplemental reissue declaration herewith to correct the defects present in the previously filed declaration, rendering the Examiner's rejection moot.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph

Claims 22-57 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Applicant traverses the rejection in its entirety, however in an effort to expedite prosecution, Applicant has cancelled claims 22-57 and added claims 58-74 which more positively recite Applicant's invention, rendering the Examiner's rejection moot.

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CONCLUSION

Having responded to all objections and rejections set forth in the outstanding Office Action, it is submitted that the currently pending claims are in condition for allowance and Notice to that effect is respectfully solicited. Additional characteristics or arguments may exist that distinguish the claims over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and Applicants respectfully preserve their right to present these in the future, should they be necessary. In the event that the Examiner is of the opinion that a brief telephone or personal interview will facilitate allowance of one or more of the above claims, he is courteously requested to contact applicant's undersigned representative.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this filing, and credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0653. If an extension of time is required, this should be considered a petition therefor.

Respectfully submitted,

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PFM:jwi